

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :

Yasuo KOBAYASHI et al :

SERIAL NO.: NEW APPLICATION :

FILED: HEREWITH :

FOR: PROCESSING METHOD AND  
APPARATUS FOR REMOVING  
OXIDE FILM

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel Claims 10-15.

**DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT**

Claims 10-15 have been cancelled.

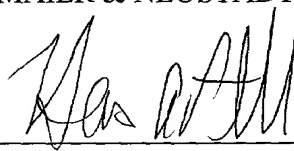
No new matter has been added by the above amendment. Claims 1-9, and 16-31 are now active in the application.

**REMARKS**

The application is ripe for examination on the merits. An early examination is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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